In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 29, line 29 through page 30, line 5 with the following paragraph:

-- ERRα upstream (3'UTR): CAG GAA AGT GAA TGC CCA GG **(SEQ ID NO:1)**
ERRα downstream (3'UTR): CTT TGC AGC AAA TAT ACA TT **(SEQ ID NO:2)**
ERα upstream (Dom D 5'): GAG CTG CCA ACC TTT GGC CAA GT **(SEQ ID NO:3)**
ERα downstream (Dom D 3') : TGA ACT TGA TCG TGG AGA TTC **(SEQ ID NO:4)**
ERβ upstream (Dom D): AAA GCC AAG AGA AAC GGT GGG CAT **(SEQ ID NO:5)**
ERβ downsteam (Dom E): GCC AAT CAT GTG CAC CAG TTC CTT **(SEQ ID NO:6)**
L32 upstream: CAT GGC TGC CCT TCG GCC TC **(SEQ ID NO:7)**
L32 downstream: CAT TCT CTT CGC TGC GTA GCC **(SEQ ID NO:8)** --

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 30, line 22 through page 31, line 10 with the following paragraph:

-- OC upstream: AGG ACC CTC TCT CTG CTC AC **(SEQ ID NO:9)**
OC downstream: AAC GGT GGT GCC ATA GAT GC **(SEQ ID NO:10)**
BSP upstream: CGC CTA CTT TTA TCC TCC TCT G **(SEQ ID NO:11)**
BSP downstream: CTG ACC CTC GTA GCC TTC ATA G **(SEQ ID NO:12)**
ALP upstream: CCC GCA TCC TTA AGG GCC AG **(SEQ ID NO:13)**
ALP downstream: TAG GCG ATG TCC TTG CAG C **(SEQ ID NO:14)**
OPN upstream: GCC ACT TGG CTG AAG CCT G **(SEQ ID NO:15)**
OPN downstream: GAA ACT CCT GGA CTT TGA CC **(SEQ ID NO:16)**
CbfA1 upstream: CTT CAT TCG CCT CAC AAA C **(SEQ ID NO:17)**
CbfA1 downstream: CAC GTC GCT CAT CTT GCC GG **(SEQ ID NO:18)**
Cyclin D1 upstream: TCC CGC CAG CAG CAA GAC AC **(SEQ ID NO:19)**
Cyclin D1 downstream: TGA GCT TGT TCA CCA GAA GC **(SEQ ID NO:20)**
c-Fos upstream: ATA GAG CCG GCG GAG CCG CG **(SEQ ID NO:21)**
c-Fos downstream: AAG CCC CGG TCG ACG GGG TG **(SEQ ID NO:22)**

Bax upstream: CCT TGG AGC AGC CGC CCC AG **(SEQ ID NO:23)**

Bax downstream: ATG TGG GCG TCC CGA AGT AGG **(SEQ ID NO:24)**

Bcl-2 upstream: GGG GAA ACA CCA GAA TCA AG **(SEQ ID NO:25)**

Bcl-2 downstream: AGA GAA GTC ATC CCC AGC CC **(SEQ ID NO:26)**

COLLI upstream: GGA GAG AGT GCC AAC TCC AG **(SEQ ID NO:27)**

COLLI downstream: CCA CCC CAG GGA TAA AAA CT **(SEQ ID NO:28)** --

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 31, line 28 through page 32, line 3 with the following paragraph:

-- Total protein was extracted from confluent HeLa and MC3T3-E1 cells according to standard methods (Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, vol. 1, 1996). Western blot analyses were performed using a semi-dry system. Immunoblotting was performed with rabbit polyclonal antiserum prepared against a rat peptide (NH-CPASDECEITKRR-C, **SEQ ID NO:29**) localized in the C domain of ERRα; blots were incubated overnight at room temperature with the antiserum diluted to 1/500, and binding was detected using HRPO -conjugated goat-anti-rabbit antibodies (1/3000; BioRad) and chemoluminescence. --

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 34, line 17 through page 35, line 2 with the following paragraph:

-- The resuspended RC cells were plated in 24 wells plates at 10^4 cells/well. Antisense oligonucleotide inhibition of ERRα expression was accomplished with a 20-base phosphorothioate-modified oligonucleotide, localized to the A/B domain. The ERRα antisense oligonucleotide sequence was: 5'-TCACCGGGGGTTCAGTCTCA-3' **(SEQ ID NO:30)**. Control dishes were treated with the complementary sense oligonucleotide or no oligonucleotide. Preliminary experiments were done to determine effective oligonucleotide concentrations that were not toxic. 0.1μM to 5μM oligonucleotides were added directly to cells either during the proliferation phase (days 1 to 6) and 0.5μM to 2μM oligonucleotides were

added during the differentiation phase (day 5 (end of proliferation) to 11) or (day 9 (nascent nodule formation) to 15) in standard medium as above supplemented with 50 μg/ml ascorbic acid, 10 mM sodium β-glycerophosphate, and 10^{-8} M dexamethasone. Medium was changed every 2 days and fresh oligonucleotides were added. mRNA was collected at day 6 for the proliferation experiments and at day 15 for the differentiation experiments. Nodules were counted at 15 days. --

At the end of the specification, please enter the paper copy of the attached Sequence Listing.